

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-17 (cancelled).

Claim 18 (withdrawn).

Claim 19 (cancelled).

Claim 20 (withdrawn).

Claims 21-36 (cancelled).

37. (original). A method for inhibiting the growth of susceptible bacteria in an environment, comprising:

providing a microorganism comprising a secretion vector, said secretion vector comprising:

a first polynucleotide encoding a bacteriocin;

a second polynucleotide encoding a bacteriocin processing peptide operable in said host cell, operably linked to said polynucleotide encoding said bacteriocin; and

a promoter operable in said host cell, operably linked to said polynucleotide encoding said bacteriocin; and

applying said microorganism to said environment in an amount sufficient to inhibit the growth of susceptible bacteria.

38. (Original). The method of claim 37, wherein said bacteriocin processing peptide comprises a divergicin A processing peptide or an operable mutein thereof.

39. (Currently amended). The method of claim 38, wherein said secretion vector further comprises an immunity gene which confers immunity from said [heterologous] bacteriocin to said host cell.

40. (Original). The method of claim 39, wherein said vector encodes a plurality of different bacteriocins.

Claims 41-49 (withdrawn).

50. (New) The method of claim 37 wherein providing a microorganism comprises providing a lactic acid bacterium.
51. (New) The method of claim 37 wherein the first polynucleotide encoding a bacteriocin comprises encoding a bacteriocin from the group consisting of leucocin, enterocin, and colicin V.
52. (New) The method of claim 37 wherein the second polynucleotide encoding a bacteriocin processing peptide comprises a polynucleotide that encodes a divergicin A signal peptide.
53. (New) The method of claim 37 wherein the secretion vector comprises a p32 promoter.
54. (New) A method for inhibiting the growth of gram positive bacteria in an environment, comprising:
providing a microorganism comprising a secretion vector, said secretion vector comprising:
a first polynucleotide encoding a bacteriocin derived from a gram-negative bacterium;
a second polynucleotide encoding a divergicin A bacteriocin processing peptide operable in said host cell, operably linked to said first polynucleotide;
a promoter operable in said host cell, operably linked to said polynucleotide encoding said bacteriocin; and
applying said microorganism to said environment in an amount sufficient to inhibit the growth of susceptible bacteria.